



## John G. Diefenbaker High School

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#### Resources



YYC Christmas Resources – Referral Required

For Social Workers, Community Agencies, and Support Professionals



#### T KINETTE CLUB OF CALGARY - ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Email: info@kincalgary.com

Website: Adopt-A-Family (kincalgary.com)

#### Referral Process:

- · Must be referred by a Social Worker or agency where the family is actively engaged in programming **Eligibility:**
- Families must meet the Low-Income Cut-Off (pre-tax) criteria
- Single adults or adult-only households are not eligible
- Families cannot receive a hamper from another source
- Families may only access this program once every 3 years (eligible again in year 4)

#### MADE BY MOMMA – CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Website & Contact Form: madebymomma.org/contact-us-2

#### **Programs Offered:**

- Adopt-a-Momma (family sponsorship)
- Santa's Workshop
- Holiday Food Hampers
- 12 CANs till Christmas Food Drive

#### **Eligibility:**

- Families must have at least one child aged 1+ living in the home
- Referral must come from a Social Worker or agency where the family is actively involved

#### Referral Timeline:

Open from October until one week before Christmas (exceptions may be considered)

#### NORTHEAST CALGARY ADOPT-A-FAMILY SOCIETY

Phone: (403) 590-6656 Email: necaafs@shaw.ca Website: necaafs.com

#### Referral Timeline:

Opens October 2025

#### **Referral Process:**

- Families must live in NE Calgary
- The family's Social Worker or Teacher can refer families, but must contact via email

#### SENIORS SECRET SERVICE - CHRISTMAS CHEER PROGRAM

Phone: (403) 257-8339

Email: coordinator@seniorssecretservice.com Website: Christmas Cheer | Seniors Secret Service

The Christmas Cheer program connects over 6,500 isolated or lonely seniors with Secret Santas.

#### Supports:

Vulnerable and isolated seniors aged 60+

Referrals accepted from agencies and professionals

#### THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

Phone: (403) 803-1619

Website: The Magic of Christmas

#### **Referral Timeline:**

Open October 1 – December 10

#### **Referral Process:**

- Families must be referred by a qualified professional (e.g., Social Worker, Teacher, Doctor, Nurse, Police Officer)
- Program includes Christmas Eve visits
- Families may access this program once every 3 years



## YYC Christmas Resources – Self-Referral

For Families Seeking Holiday Support in Calgary

#### CALGARY FOOD BANK

Phone: (403) 253-2055

Email: info@calgaryfoodbank.com

Website: Need Food? Get Your Food Hamper | Calgary Food Bank

Food hampers include regular items only (no holiday extras).

To book a hamper, call the hamper request line at 403-253-2055. Phone lines may be busy due to high call volumes—please be patient and keep trying.

#### **Call Centre Hours:**

Monday—Thursday: 8:15 AM — 7:00 PM

Friday: 8:15 AM – 4:00 PM

Note: ID is required for all household members.



#### CENTRE STREET CHURCH - CHRISTMAS HAMPERS & COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

#### Eligibility:

Christmas hampers are available to individuals connected to:

Centre Street Church community



- New Canadian Hub
- The Well Café

#### **Registration Process:**

- Register in person at The Well Café (3900 2nd St NE) on Mondays or Wednesdays, 5:30–7:30 PM, starting November 3
- Or register after any Central Campus church service beginning November 1

#### **Additional Supports** (for the wider community):

- The Well Café Free hot meals (Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30–7:30 PM, closed stat holidays)
- ReNew Clothing Free clothing shop open during Well Café hours
- Calgary Food Bank Depot Call 403-253-2055 to register for a hamper
- All services are located at 3900 2nd St NE (north side entrance). These programs help reduce food and clothing costs so families can focus their income on essentials like rent and utilities.

#### **T** CLOSER-TO-HOME - ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

This holiday season, Closer to Home provides gift cards to over 400 families experiencing financial hardship, helping them access food, essentials, and meaningful gifts. Families are matched with donors and can choose what they need most.

- Eligibility:
- Priority is given to families living north of 16th Avenue and west of Deerfoot Trail, up to Crowchild Trail. If outside this area, staff will help connect you to other supports.
- Families must have children under 18 living in the home.
- Next Step: Call (403) 543-0555 and ask for the Intake & Assessment Worker.
- Visit the FAQ for more details.
- **▲** ELVES OFF THE SHELF FREE ALL AGES CHRISTMAS PARTY
- 📰 Saturday, December 20, 2025 | 🕐 1:00–4:00 PM MST
- The Arrowhead, 4630 Macleod Trail South, Calgary
- FREE admission tickets required via Showpass

Enjoy crafts, live entertainment, free gifts from Santa, and festive fun for all ages!

- Free gifts for kids | 
   Pholiday crafts | 
   Photos with Santa | 
   Live MC & performances by Jayme Minor
- 🞎 All ages welcome arrive early, lines may form
- ▲ Interested in sponsoring? Email <a href="mailto:Jayme@maxgreen.ca">Jayme@maxgreen.ca</a>
- Get Tickets

#### 🛦 SACRED HEART CHURCH – CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM

Each year, this program provides food hampers just before Christmas to families in need. A heartfelt way to share the spirit of giving.

Phone: (403) 244-2741

Website: Sacred Heart Christmas Hamper Program

Referrals are open. Contact the church directly for details.

### **T** SALVATION ARMY – CHRISTMAS TOY PROGRAM (Ages 0–12) Contact: General Inquiries – (403)

410-1111 | Tech Support - (403) 410-1158

Website: Salvation Army Calgary – Registration available online

Overview: Supports low-income families with children aged 0–12 by providing toys for the holiday

season. Appointments are booked with staff to select gifts.

Registration: Opens November 3 at 9:00 AM. Call tech support if you experience issues.

Eligibility: Must live in designated Calgary communities, be low-income, have children aged 0–12, and not be receiving toys from another program.

#### WOMEN IN NEED SOCIETY (WINS)

WINS is currently able to support referrals to the Magic of Christmas. If families are unable to access Magic of Christmas, WINS can provide information about other agencies and organizations where selfreferrals are possible.

#### To book an appointment:

Phone: 825-540-4717 (leave a voicemail) Email: hubs@winsyyc.ca (recommended)

Website: winsyyc.ca

Support available through WINS Community Resource Hubs: Beltline, Dover, Erin Woods, Temple.

Note: Appointment required.

## Stay tuned....



#### FRESH ROUTES

The holiday season is almost here — a time for cozy kitchens, shared meals, and the comfort of being together. But for many families in our community, the holidays can bring a very different feeling stress. Food prices are higher than ever, and too many parents are forced to choose between paying bills and putting a special meal on the table.

MI At Fresh Routes, we believe every family deserves to celebrate with dignity and joy. That's why, this year, we're setting out to provide over **300 families** with full **Holiday Meal Kits** — complete with fresh produce, turkey or chicken, dessert, and a printed recipe to share.

m On Giving Tuesday (December 2), we'll be inviting our community to come together to make this happen.

Until then, stay tuned for stories and ways to make your impact count — because this holiday season, you can be the reason a family gathers around a warm meal.
With gratitude,

The Fresh Routes Team

freshroutes.ca

#### **Dignified Holiday Meals for Those in Need**

Fresh Routes is a non-profit social enterprise delivering fresh, affordable food to communities through Mobile Grocery Stores.

Customers: Visit freshroutes.ca for market schedules.

New Locations & Food Donations: Contact CEO Nikita at nikita@freshroutes.ca.

Sponsors & Media Inquiries: Reach out to Communications at <a href="mailto:cindy@freshroutes.ca">cindy@freshroutes.ca</a>.

Volunteers: Fill out the onboarding form to receive the manual and shift sign-up link. Questions? Email volunteers@freshroutes.ca.

General Inquiries: Expect a response within 2 business days.

P Head Office: Bay 4, 1925 39 Ave NE, Calgary, AB T2E 6P7

Website: <u>www.freshroutes.ca</u>

## 🍐 Holiday Giveaway – Siksika Nation Christmas Hampers

Siksika Nation is spreading holiday cheer this December with a Community Turkey Hamper Giveaway for Siksika members in both Siksika and Calgary.

We will be distributing 2,000 Christmas hampers, each filled with:

🍯 Turkey | 🧊 Stuffing | 🥜 Potatoes | 🍗 Gravy | 🞧 Cranberry Sauce | 🥚 Onions | 🜿 Celery

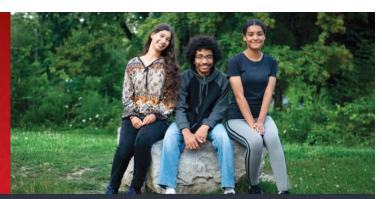
As the season sparkles with lights and celebration, we recognize it can also bring added stress. These hampers are offered with care, and our warmest wishes for a peaceful, nourishing holiday.

Dates and locations will be announced in December.

Stay tuned for updates!

Turkey Giveaway! - Siksika Nation

**YMCA** Summer Work Student Exchange program



Are you 16 or 17 years old and live in Canada? Participate in Summer Work Student Exchange to get real work experience, make new friends, and live in another province.

For six weeks in July and August, you will...



Travel with other youth to Québec and practice your French skills



Get a paid, full-time summer job and stay with a local host family



Get involved in fun activities, build new friendships, and experience the local culture





Learn more and apply online today







@ymcaexchanges







## Free Community Events







## Basic Swimming Skills for New Canadians

#### The Lifesaving Society's Swim to Survive® program focuses on three basic survival skills:

This **no-cost**, introductory program is designed for newcomers to Canada, **ages 3 and up**.

Participants will gain confidence in the water, learn important water safety tips, and practice basic skills such as floating, jumping in, and moving while wearing a lifejacket.

No equipment is needed. T-shirts and shorts will be provided.

Location: Village Square Leisure Centre, 2623 56 Street N.E.

Fridays			
Dates	Course ID*	Time	
December 5 – 19, 2025	120303	6:00 - 6:45 PM	

Fridays			
Dates	Course ID*	Time	
December 5 - 19, 2025	120304	7:00 - 7:45 PM	

#### To Register: provide the course code\* to registration staff

- In person at any City of Calgary Recreation facility
- By phone at 403-268-3800, option #1





## WE WELCOME WINTER!

Excited to start exploring the winter wonders of your Calgary & Alberta backyards? Curious about where to go, how to dress and what connections you might discover?

Beginning inside and venturing outside to play with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) - curious explorers of all ages and fitness levels are welcome!



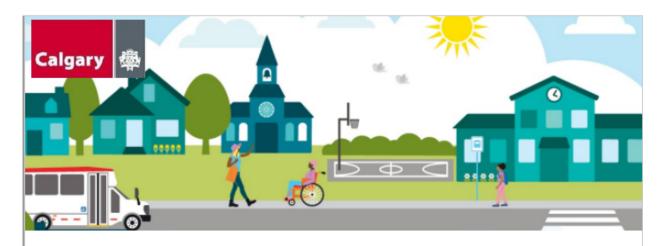
Bring your sense of adventure, friends & family, and PLEASE dress warm with winter boots, warm layers, hats and mittens.

Tuesday Dec 2, 2025
4:45 PM - 6:30 PM
Thornhill Aquatic & Recreation Centre
(multipurpose room)

Register with Tina at: christina.buchan@calgary.ca







# Want to support great ideas in Huntington Hills?

Neighbourhood Grants provide funding for activities focusing on: Social Inclusion, Economic Participation, Anti-Racism & Truth and Reconciliation

Our Neighbourhood Grants program is looking for community residents to volunteer on a Neighbourhood Advisory Committee in your community. Be a part of making a stronger Huntington Hills!

No previous committee experience is required.

You will work with other residents from your neighbourhood to review grants.

\*\*Commitment is a few hours a month. Must be a resident of Huntington Hills.

Must be able to meet online.

## For More Information, Contact:

Huntington Hills CSW Tina Buchan christina.buchan@calgary.ca

Follow the QR Code
To Learn More

